

News Briefs

Veterans Day ceremony

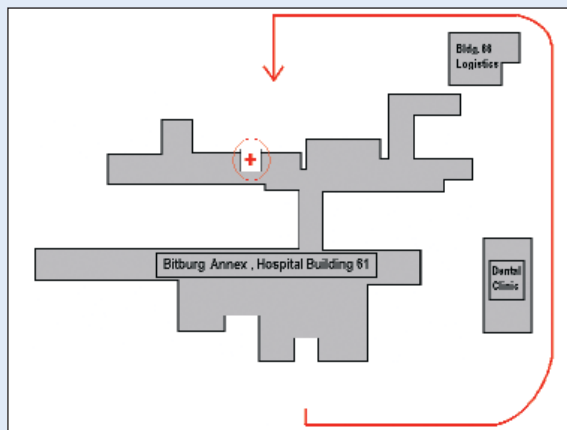
The 52nd Fighter Wing participates in a Veterans Day ceremony at the Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial in Hamm, a suburb of Luxembourg City, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. All members of the Team Eifel community are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact group executive officer or call Capt. Brian Penton at 452-8203.

Vaccinations update

Spangdahlem AB will experience minor delays in receiving the influenza vaccine for the 2005-2006 flu season; there are no exact dates for delivery of these shipments yet. The first shipment will be reserved for deployers and the high-risk population, who will be notified by mail as to when they can get their shots. The shot will not be given without the letter. The second shipment will be for the active duty members assigned to Spangdahlem AB. Ideally, all active duty members will be vaccinated in a massive one-week push by using building 217 as a flu shot focal point. Immunization technicians will administer flu shots from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday during that week to ensure that everyone has a chance to receive their vaccination. For more information, call the Spangdahlem AB Immunization Clinic at 452-8382 or 06565-958382.

Alternate ER entrance

Starting Monday and through Jan. 5, the Bitburg Annex Hospital Emergency Room renovations will require patients, staff members and visitors to use an alternate entrance in the back parking lot. This will be the new entrance area for the pharmacy, multi-specialty care clinic, pediatric and obstetrics and gynecology clinic.



Drinking water notice

The drinking water is contaminated with bacteria in the towns of Strotzbuesch, Driesch, Lutzerath, Kennfus, Weiler, Gevenich, Faid, Dohr, Urschmitt, Kliding, and Beuren. The cause of contamination is being investigated by the Daun Public Health Department, and measures to eliminate the problem are underway. Tap water from the affected areas must be boiled before use in preparation of food and ice cubes, and for brushing teeth. For laundry, showering and bathing, the water does not need to be boiled as long as the water is not used for drinking or does not come in contact with open wounds. Pets and cattle can continue to drink tap water. The Cochem-Zell water plant will publish another advisory when the water is cleared for unrestricted use. Call to Lt. Col. James Harcarik at 452-8348 for details.

Never forget

Read "Verdun tourism invites visitors to honor soldiers' freedom fight" on Page 7



Eifel Times

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Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

www.spangdahlem.af.mil

Oct. 21, 2005



Courtesy photo

'Fun'-raisers

Spangdahlem School Age Program children, center, hold giant checks and pose for pictures with Col. Dave Goldfein, fourth from left, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, Oct. 14. The children participated in a week-long read-a-thon and a one-hour walk-a-thon to aid Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., following Hurricane Katrina. The children solicited pledges based on the number of laps they could walk on a 1/8 mile course in one hour, as well as pledges per pages read in a book. "I felt it important to incorporate both physical and mental attributes so each child could participate," said Jim Dugan, Spangdahlem school age director. On Oct. 14, the Spangdahlem SAP presented the wing commander with a check in the amount of \$4,207.73 and the Spangdahlem Youth Sports Program presented an additional check in the amount of \$2,370.

Spangdahlem AB maintainers keep Cope Thunder 06-1 going

By Staff Sgt. A.C. Eggman
Cope Thunder Public Affairs

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska (AFPN) -- Tucked away in an office on the far corner of the Thunder Dome, two men ensure Airmen and Sailors get Cope Thunder 06-1 missions off the ground -- on time and on target.

Without the oversight of Col. Mark Fluke and the group's superintendent, Chief Master Sgt. Darrin Dwyer, exercise Cope Thunder would, theoretically, only be a ground-combat exercise.

Their job is to ensure maintainers take care of work-related issues and all Cope Thunder maintenance personnel have the resources necessary to ensure their aircraft are 100 percent mission capable, despite the Alaskan location.

"This is the first 'winter' Cope Thunder," said Colonel Fluke, the 52nd Expeditionary Maintenance Group commander from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. "It entails real challenges such as bringing jets to a cold weather environment to operate."

Most of the maintenance challenges due to weather are minor leaks and broken seals, he said. But there are other challenges -- getting people to understand the difficulties of operating in a cold environment.

"We need to do things safely," the colonel said.

This year, the Pacific Air Forces field training exercise is being held later than usual. That means maintenance personnel and aircrews are mostly operating in darkness.

"Flying at night presents its own challenges -- like practicing employing night time sorties -- but that works well for most units," Colonel Fluke said. "This is a spin up for (Air Expeditionary Force) 9/10 for many units and they need to practice their night sorties."

The exercise allows maintenance units the chance to work in a semi-joint status. The Navy is also participating, learning how to work with different units or platforms with which they may deploy.

While many people think 120 degrees when they hear deployment, not everyone will end up in that type of weather, said Chief Dwyer, who is from Alaska.



Airman 1st Class Justin Weaver

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska -- Senior Airman Deryck Griggs fixes an oil leak on his F-16 Fighting Falcon. The Airman, from the 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, is taking part in exercise Cope Thunder 06-1, which ends Oct. 21. Some 1,000 active duty and Air National Guard Airmen and 87 aircraft are taking part in the exercise. Pacific Air Forces hosts the two-week air combat training exercise.

"We have to be ready to go anywhere, any time," the chief said. "Any time you are TDY (on temporary duty) to train, you don't have all the distractions, extra duties, family and friends -- you are totally focused. It's our rehearsal time."

The exercise also allows maintenance teams to learn the faces and names of the people they may deploy with in January, the chief said.

"They are learning how they can help each other," he said. "This playground helps us prepare."

The maintainers are also learning how to work together and whether they packed the right tools and equipment. They are learning how critical it is for the aircraft to take off on time, and also making sure jets are 100 percent mission ready.

"It's training, it's a classroom," Chief Dwyer said. "Some times it's the little things that have the greatest impact."

RESCON Watch

BRAVO

1-2 DUIs in the Last 30 Days

Days since last DUI: **20**

Large unit with best record: 52nd Communications Squadron, 246 days
Small units with best record: 52nd Medical Support Squadron,
52nd Dental Squadron and 52nd Contracting Squadron: No DUIs

Data Courtesy of the 52nd SFS

When going out, have a plan or call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 06565-61-2233.

Force shaping board holds meeting in 2006

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON -- A force shaping board will convene in 2006 and continue to meet annually to properly shape the officer corps to meet emerging Air Force needs.

Instituted by the Air Force, the board will be a regular aspect of force management and development in the future.

Authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force, the board convenes at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base in April.

Force shaping efforts started in 2004 and evolved in an effort to meet congressionally mandated fiscal year end strength requirements and maintain a balanced force.

"The force shaping board is another aspect of our force management and development," said Brig. Gen. Glenn F. Spears, Air Force director of force management policy. "We must have a balanced force of officers and enlisted Airmen to meet the missions of today and tomorrow."

The Air Force began fiscal year 2006 with a force imbalance. It was under strength by approximately 6,000 enlisted and over strength by approximately 3,000 officers.

A current excess of nearly 4,000 officers -- primarily from the 2000 to 2004 commissioning years -- make worse the imbalance and has a long-range impact on the effective development of the officer corps and the ability to access sustainable numbers of enlisted Airmen.

Despite an aggressive voluntary force shaping campaign, the Air Force has not achieved the balance of officer to enlisted Airmen through existing voluntary means.

Congress recently gave each service secretary increased authority to proactively manage their junior officer corps through force shaping efforts.

"The Air Force values the service and sacrifice of all Airmen who volunteer to serve, and separating officers is a difficult decision that we do not take lightly," General Spears said. "This first force shaping process will 'select-in' approxi-

mately 7,800 line officers commissioned in 2002 and 2003 to continue to serve in our active Air Force."

Eligible officers may continue to apply for voluntary separation until March 1, 2006, using the force shaping initiatives already approved.

Subsequent boards will consider officers commissioned three years earlier. For example, the 2007 board will evaluate officers commissioned in 2004.

"We value the service of all our Airmen," General Spears said. "Voluntary force shaping initiatives, and the force shaping board, are key aspects of our force management and development."

"Our Airmen have many opportunities to serve -- in the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard, as Air Force civilians or in the Army," the general said. "We encourage Airmen in the affected year to pursue those opportunities to continue service to our great nation."

Sabers set to honor Veterans

By Capt. Brian Penton
52nd Dental Squadron

More than 100 Sabers will honor veterans by participating in a Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. in the Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial in Hamm, a suburb of Luxembourg City.

A formation of troops, the base honor guard and the Eifel Singers, among others, will represent the 52nd Fighter Wing. Many more will be in attendance including the U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg, local veterans groups, and two Boy Scouts troops.

Nov. 11 is remembered as the anniversary of the Armistice which was signed in 1918 and helped to end the hostilities of World War I. It was a day that began with the laying down of arms followed by impromptu parades and celebrations heard around the world.

In America, "Armistice Day" later became "Veterans Day" to celebrate and honor all veterans for their patriotism, sacrifice, and love of country.

Veterans Day not only honors veterans who gave their lives, but also pays tribute to those veterans who are still living. On Nov. 11, take a moment to thank the veteran family members and community members for the sacrifices they have made in service to their country.

The Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial has a Veterans Day ceremony each year and always welcomes members of the Team Eifel community.

The site was a temporary military burial ground for casualties of World War II. It was later selected as the location of one of 14 permanent World War II American military cemeteries to be erected on foreign soil. There exists a fitting memorial, a chapel, and 5,076 American military dead including Gen. George S. Patton Jr.

As always, Sabers are encouraged to embrace our heritage, traditions and history. Come be a part of this year's celebration to honor our veterans. For more information call the

group executive officer or call Captain Brian Penton at 452-8203.



Staff Sgt. Steven Gonzalez

Girl's best friend

Leigha Daryanani, Spangdahlem Elementary School kindergarten student, "high-fives" Sparky the Firedog during the Fire Prevention Parade Saturday in the Bitburg Annex housing area. The 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron fire department highlighted the education and safety of wing children during Fire Prevention Week at Spangdahlem Air Base Oct. 9-15.

Family advocacy discusses domestic violence prevention, stresses mandatory reporting by Saber community members

Staff reports

During especially stressful times, it is important to reflect on personal and family relationships.

The increased activity of daily life, deployments or life transitions such as having a child can challenge even the most loving relationships.

Across the U.S. and in the Air Force, communities, individuals and organizations increase public awareness about domestic violence. People can help prevent domestic violence by becoming aware of it and helping those in need to seek help.

Team Eifel can also increase understanding about creating and nurturing respectful, secure and loving relationships.

Domestic violence does not discriminate against military rank, social, economic, religious, cultural or ethnic status. The victim and perpetrator can be either gender.

Domestic violence occurs for many reasons; however, abuse is often about control and power due to the perpetrator's own low

self-esteem. The victim typically also suffers from feelings of low self worth. Too often, abusive relationships are generational.

Children brought up in abusive homes where they have witnessed domestic violence between their parents or they themselves are victims of child abuse, tend to perpetuate family violence.

These children often either identify with the perpetrator and become abusive themselves or identify with the victim and seek out abusive relationships.

The affects of abuse can be life long, significantly impacting an individual's emotional, spiritual and physical health.

The good news is that humans have control of their own destiny, and with help, the cycle of violence can be broken.

People do not have to repeat unhealthy patterns in relationships. Often, however, people need help to gain greater awareness about unhealthy relationship interaction and to learn new ways of thinking, behaving and interacting with their partner.

The Air Force recognizes that an individual, couple or family may experience stressful times.

Therefore, it encourages members to obtain help as soon as possible to avoid escalating problems. The Eifel community offers many agencies and programs for those families who need help, guidance and support.

The Spangdahlem Air Base Family Advocacy Center is the first place to go for help. Family advocacy and the Spangdahlem AB Life Skills center staffs offer educational literature, classes, programs and counseling for individuals, couples and families who seek to strengthen their relationships. Other base agencies such as the family support centers and the chaplains also offer help.

To further encourage military people to seek preventative help, Air Force policy states that when obtaining preventative counseling such as premarital or marital counseling, there will be no medical records documentation. Of course, family situations that have been substantiated as maltreatment are reported in medical records.

Therefore, it is crucial for the couple and for the Air Force mission that small conflicts are addressed promptly. Seeking help is never a sign of weakness.

Reporting of domestic abuse is everyone's responsibility. Wing members in a violent relationship are urged to seek help. Those who know someone who is struggling with a violent relationship must encourage them to seek help. Reporting is mandatory when any form of abuse is suspected. Reports can be made anonymously, and reported abuse cases are addressed with sensitivity for all parties involved.

Simple acts of kindness to partners and neighbors can reduce feelings of isolation and encourage a community of caring behavior.

Getting to know neighbors, learning to listen and communicate needs with partners and clarifying family values are just a few ways people can create secure and loving relationships. For more information about family advocacy's support for individuals, couples or families, call 452-8279.



Courtesy photo

Top Saber Performer

Name: Staff Sgt. Steven Gonzales
Unit: 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron
Duty title: Fire prevention inspector
Hometown: San Antonio
Years in service: Seven
Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success: In addition to demonstrating proper use of fire extinguishers, instructing residents on fire safety, and briefing newcomers to the fire prevention program, Sergeant Gonzales conducts fire inspections on base facilities to ensure fire and life safety compliances. His involvement extends throughout the Spangdahlem region providing fire prevention guidance for geographically-separated units. He

has issued fire prevention visit reports identifying and proposing corrective actions for fire safety deficiencies to facility managers and squadron commanders.

Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: Sergeant Gonzales has completed the Federal Emergency Management Agency Incident Management and Hazardous Material Prevention online course. He is a Fire Department Association member and events coordinator. He consistently volunteers with Airman Against Drunk Driving, the Bitburg Annex Big Annual Summer Happening, semi-annual bazaars and haunted house, lending his support and "get-it-done" attitude.

What do you do for fun? Work! But seriously, I spend as much time as possible with my wife to make up for all the times I may not be home.

What do you like most about being stationed here? What's not to like about being here? It's a great location, fun community, and an extraordinary team.

What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base? I'd like to see a chance for me and other troops to get a hands-on experience in other career fields -- to see how hard everyone really works to get the job done.

Wing lauds third quarter winners

Staff reports

The 52nd Fighter Wing recognizes the following individuals for their outstanding achievements during the third quarter 2005.

52nd Fighter Wing staff agencies

Airman: Senior Airman Jeremy Marcolini, American Forces Network, Detachment 9; **NCO:** Staff Sgt. Nathan Gurwell, 52nd Comptroller Squadron; **SNCO:** Master Sgt. Salvatore Belloise, 52nd FW Plans and Programs; **CGO:** Capt. Sheryl Ott, 52nd FW Safety Office; **mid-level civilian:** Mary Gannon-Kroeschel, 52nd FW secretary; **senior-level civilian:** Connie Pitsch, 52nd Community Relations assistant

52nd Operations Group

Airman: Airman 1st Class Gillian Deack, 22nd Fighter Squadron; **NCO:** Staff Sgt. Jeremy Fox, 606th Air Control Squadron; **SNCO:** Master Sgt. John Rozell, 52nd FW Life Support; **CGO:** Capt. George Sconyers, 606th ACS; instructor pilot: Capt. Dax Hayes, 52nd OG; **wingman:** Capt. David Wray, 22nd FS; flight lead: Capt. Christopher Kopacek, 23rd Fighter Squadron; **flight commander:** Maj. Paul Perkins, 81st Fighter Squadron; mid-level civilian: Sue Panfil, 52nd OG



52nd Mission Support Group

Airman: Senior Airman Karen Harris, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron; **NCO:** Staff Sgt. Michael Brancuto, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron; **SNCO:** Master Sgt. Pamela Cook, 52nd Services Squadron; **CGO:** Capt. Jason Bylow, 52nd Security Forces Squadron; **junior-level civilian:** Marc Schumacher, 52nd CES; **mid-grade civilian:** Carmen Jutz, 52nd Communications Squadron; **senior civilian:** Sally Fuller, 52nd SVS

52nd Maintenance Group

Airman: Airman 1st Class Jamaal Thomas, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron; **NCO:** Staff Sgt. Francisco Araujo, 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron; **SNCO:** Master Sgt. Steven Frisch, 52nd EMS; **CGO:** Capt. Aaron Milner, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; **junior-level civilian:** Dana Hodges

52nd Medical Group

Airman: Airman 1st Class Richard Hairston, 52nd Medical Support Squadron; **NCO:** Tech. Sgt. Thomas Lloyd, 52nd Dental Squadron; **SNCO:** Master Sgt. Sandra Pocius, 52nd MDSS; **CGO:** 1st Lt. Mark Wimley, 52nd MDSS; **junior-level civilian:** Holly Jo Carpenter, 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Eifel Salutes

52nd Mission Support Group

Hey Jo, you've earned a salute! **Jo Bolish** utilized professional and timely customer service skills to administer the German Foreign Language Proficiency Pay test to a Saber. We have plenty of time for the "Payne!" **John Payne Jr.** takes great pleasure in assisting applicants in their search for employment -- he goes above and beyond to match an applicant's skills with a supervisor who could use their help. **Tech. Sgt. Ron Detillion** did a deliciously good job of opening the new Air Mobility Command flight line kitchen an amazing two weeks ahead of schedule. Sergeant Detillion, the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron and the Mosel Hall Dining Facility worked hard to keep flight meals available even when faulty refrigerators caused problems with food storage. A "clean" sweep! The third quarter Dorm of the Quarter results are in -- with **Dormitory 333, the 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron**, snagging first place. Second place went to the **52nd Operations Group's Dormitory 134** and an honorable mention went to the **52nd Component Maintenance Squadron's Dormitory 136**.

52nd Maintenance Group

Breath easy and salute **Tech. Sgt. Sonja Aubert**, who coordinated the purchase of \$11,000 worth of cardiopulmonary resuscitation equipment for her squadron and doubled the CPR training capability for 500 assigned troops.

52nd Medical Group

A salute -- stat -- goes to **Maj. Jay Marque**,

Capt. Ross Birdsong, **Staff Sgt. Lorylee Willis** and **Airman 1st Class Bridget Martinez**, who organized a successful day of shift-coverage, teambuilding and fun activities for the first-ever emergency services morale day. Talk about bedside manner ... **Julia Crissinger** and **Suzanne Berrong** showed their dedication to Air Force family members who delivered at a local krankenhaus. They made daily visits to the individuals to educate and provide reassurance. **Senior Airman Bernard Williams** recently had a "moving experience" when he spearheaded a short-notice warehouse relocation to enable infrastructure repairs and moved more than \$200,000 worth of medical supplies with no interruption in service.

38th Munitions Maintenance Group

Staff Sgt. Jeffery Andrade captures a salute for spearheading an outstanding training environment during German and U.S. security forces recapture and recovery operations. His professionalism ensured the aircrew was properly trained and briefed on all tasks associated with prime airlift missions. In the "warehouse" are **Tech. Sgts. Timmi Moses, Britt Tobin** and **Joseph Fontenot**, who planned and executed a flawless and timely weapons re-warehousing operation. The operation was the unit's most complicated in the last two years, and was completed four hours ahead of schedule.

Kudos to all; Team Eifel salutes you!

(Compiled by Senior Airman Amaani Lyle, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)



Courtesy photo

Top Saber Team

Unit name: 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Prevention Section

A brief description of unit responsibilities: The fire prevention section is responsible for a comprehensive year-round fire prevention program and ensures the fire safety of all Sabers. The team provides fire safety guidelines to all military people, their family members, local nationals and contractors. Fire prevention activities also include facility and functional inspections, construction plan analysis, fire extinguisher maintenance and testing, newcomer's briefings, fire safety deficiency program management, and geographically-separated unit support.

Number of members: Six; not pictured is Staff Sgt. Paul Luevano, deployed

How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission? The team has made a commitment to the education and safety of wing children. Though fire prevention week is the team's most concentrated campaign for the schools, the section is involved in education and community events throughout the year. They conducted in-home fire prevention briefings for more than 2,000 newcomers, and manage the fire inspection program for more than 4,000 facilities. They also identify fire hazards and ensure corrective measures are taken, as shown by the continued low fire-loss record. The section has reviewed numerous engineering plans and specifications and civil engineer work orders for construction and alterations to existing or new structures and recommended changes to comply with fire prevention and life safety requirements.

Team's other contributions through the year? These Sabers ensured exceptional oversight to the Rhein-Main Transition Program, reviewed and provided expert comments on more than \$150 million in projects. The section identified shortfalls with wing programs and developed workable solutions to ensure the community is protected. The team members facilitated the development and first-ever use of the combination horn and strobe unit in Germany with electrical engineers and a German-based alarm system company.

Candy-seekers are in for a sweet treat with Halloween events

By Staff Sgt. Bill Crum
52nd Security Forces Squadron

Ghosts and goblins will once again haunt the Eifel at the end of October. Trick-or-treaters can begin their candy hunt Oct. 31 from 5-8 p.m. on Spangdahlem Air Base and the Bitburg Annex. Binsfeld and Speicher government-leased housing areas are included in the trick-or-treating, and are open to the public and local national children.

The 52nd Security Forces Squadron will have uniformed volunteers on hand to patrol the streets, but parents and adult escorts should remain alert to help ensure the safety of children. Stairwell residents should keep their lights on while handing out candy and turn the light off when out of candy. Parents can enjoy the season and wear costumes but should be able to identify themselves when requested by security volunteers. Parents or responsible siblings should also escort children on foot. All involved should be wearing their safety reflective belt.

As a reminder, all candy should be inspected before letting the children take the first bite. The 726th Air Mobility Squadron will scan Halloween candy through the passenger terminal X-ray machine from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in building 670 Oct. 31 and Nov. 1. The X-ray machine is located in the 726 AMS Passenger Terminal in building 670. Call the Passenger Terminal at 452-8866 for details. All military members to include parents and security volunteers should immediately report suspicious activity to the Spangdahlem AB Security Forces Control Center by calling 452-6666 or 06565-616666.

For those who are too old to trick-or-treat, there will be two haunted houses to visit. The 52nd Communications and Civil Engineer Squadrons team up to provide chills and thrills on the Bitburg Annex and the 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron booster club haunted house will be in the Spangdahlem AB housing area. The 52nd CES and 52nd CS haunted house takes place Oct. 28-31 from 6 p.m. to midnight and occurs next to the Bitburg Annex Fitness Center. The price of admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for children ages 10 and younger, but the content is not recommended for the very young.

A "lights-on" viewing for children will be available from 5-6 p.m. Oct. 31 with the special price of \$2 includes free treats for children ages 5 and younger.

Parents escorting their children during the "lights-on" session will be admitted for free. The 52nd LRS-sponsored haunted house takes place in Spangdahlem AB housing building 404, and is also open Oct. 28-31 from 6 p.m. to midnight, with children's hours from 6-7 p.m. each night. The price of admission is \$5 for children ages 10 and older and \$3 for children ages 9 and younger. The LRS haunted house will also feature snacks and drinks available for additional purchase.

Halloween events

- ♦ The 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron Spouses Group Halloween Social takes place Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Air Base Coffee Mill, Building 139. Childcare is provided. Call Melissa Egbalic at 01511-1543145 or Olinda Alexander at 06580-917561 for more information.

- ♦ The 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron Trunk or Treat costume party takes place Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the base pavilion near the bowling center.

- ♦ The 606th Air Control Squadron is open for trick-or-treating Oct. 28, starting at 3 p.m. 606th ACS children and parents are welcome to visit the squadron in costume for family photos and frightful mischief.

Volunteers are needed for set up, clean up and candy donations. Call Stephanie Miller at 06571-952201 for more information.

- ♦ Spooky story readings and a costume contest take place Oct. 28 at 3 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB Library and at 4:30 p.m. at the Bitburg Annex Library.

- ♦ A preteen costume and dance party for youth ages 6-12 takes place Oct. 28 from 7-9 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex Teen Center. Cost is \$4 for members, \$6 for visitors and free for Torch Club members. A party for teenagers ages 13-18 takes place Oct. 29 from 8 p.m. to midnight at the center. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for visitors and free for Keystone Club members.

- ♦ 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Haunted House is open Oct. 28-30 from 6 p.m. to midnight in the Bitburg Annex French caserne. The house is open at 5 p.m. to midnight Oct. 31. The event is for military ID card holders and people with base access who are age 12 and older.

- ♦ A costume party and chili cook-off sponsored by the Spangdahlem Spouses and Enlisted Club takes place Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. at the Binsfeld outdoor forest pavilion. Call Craig Sweeney at 06575-901785 for details.

- ♦ A Combat Care Fall Harvest party takes place Oct. 29 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB Youth Center. Activities include pumpkin carving and tug-of-war, races and temporary tattoo art. Children are encouraged to bring a pillowcase to decorate and use as a treat bag.

Children of deployed members get hands-on experience at junior PDF

Story and photo by Sue Perron
52nd Fighter Wing American Red Cross

To help children understand what happens when their parents deploy, the Spangdahlem Air Base Family Support Center hosted its annual junior personnel deployment function Oct. 15, in building 217.

Proving that it is sometimes better to show than tell, the junior PDF uses an interactive learning approach to make an impression.

Fantasy Gentner, whose husband, Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Gentner, is deployed downrange with the 407th Security Forces Squadron, said it is hard to explain to children this age what it is their parents go through.

"This is a really great program that gives children a hands-on experience, and an impression that lasts longer than words," Ms. Gentner said.

For children like Christian Bangs, son of deployed 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Master Sgt. John Bangs, the event was "pretty awesome and fun."

Christian said that though the junior PDF was probably "a little easier than the grown-ups," he now knows more about what his father had to do to deploy.

Revealing the big picture, Tech. Sgt. Ryan Helfenstein, Spangdahlem AB Family Support Center's Readiness NCO, explained one of FSC's overall missions is to help wing members "adapt to the demands of Air Force life" through community-oriented activities such as the junior PDF.

Sergeant Helfenstein, who played a vital role in organizing Saturday's event, saw a hands-on approach as the best way to reach children.

"As we see with the junior PDF, children have a better understanding of the process," Sergeant



Hannah Tuck, Bitburg Elementary School student, gets her helmet adjusted by a Staff Sgt. Suzan Alnes, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron readiness troop, during the junior personnel deployment function line Saturday.

Helfenstein said. "For example, they see the different offices their parents must visit, the number of people involved, and what items their parents have to bring when they deploy."

Sergeant Helfenstein said the augmentation of static displays such as the humvee, ambulance and satellite dish helped improve this year's junior PDF program. The NCO added that he was confident the kids had a great time and felt the event was an overall success.

52nd MDG introduces new paperless centralized records system Monday

52nd Medical Group staff reports

The centralized record-keeping system designed to replace servicemember and family member medical files heads to the 52nd Medical Group Monday, heralding the start of an electronic evolution in the military healthcare system.

Called the Composite Health Care System II (CHCS II), the new program will eventually store all military patients' medical information on a centralized database in Montgomery, Ala., signaling the final days of the stacks of handwritten documents traditionally carried by service members.

Instead, all new records will be kept as electronic files in CHCS II, an upgrade that military medical officials called a vast improvement to the existing system.

"Up-to-date, legible and accessible medical records are vital to ensuring military readiness and providing safe and superior patient care," said Staff Sgt. Tracy Williams, 52nd Fighter Wing Self Aid Buddy Care advisor. "Computerization is the key to making this happen."

The benefits include the ability of doctors in medical groups worldwide to view online a single, up-to-date record for each patient, eliminating duplicate files and preventing doctors from having to "start from scratch" when paperwork is not in a member's record. Plus, the new electronic records will be legible.

The implementation of CHCS II is a massive government project that developed last year with information technology staff members moving the last two years' worth of patients' labs and X-rays from the old system into the new database.

Implementing the software in medical groups

requires large numbers of new computers and printers for staff in the military's expansive medical network and training for everyone from physicians to administrative staff.

The 52nd MDG has received 80 additional computers and 50 printers in preparation for this project. The software will be placed on a total of 250 computers throughout the 52nd MDG.

Implementation at 16 stateside medical groups has been accomplished; the 435th Medical Group at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, was the first in U.S. Air Forces in Europe to bring the program online.

With the successful implementation of CHCS II there, other USAFE bases, to include the 52nd MDG, have begun the implementation process.

By the end of 2006, the system will span all Department of Defense medical facilities and also will include dental records.

One medical record per patient will be available worldwide.

Training for members of the 52nd MDG begins Monday and will last through Jan. 20, 2006.

Like many medical remedies, CHCS II initially will have its hurt before it can heal. The staff will learn how to best use this new computer program for optimal patient care. During the transition to a paperless medical record, medical group staff members will do everything possible to minimize appointment delays.

For more information about CHCS II, call Lt. Col. Robert Schmitz, CHCS II Project Officer at 452-3480, or Maj. John McKenna, CHCS II training coordinator at 452-8372.

Col. Dave Goldfein.....Commander
Capt. Thomas Crosson.....Public affairs chief
Capt. Mike Cumberworth.....PA deputy
Tech. Sgt. Pamela Anderson.....PA NCOIC
Senior Airman Amaani Lyle.....Editor
Senior Airman Eydie Sakura.....Staff writer
Iris Reiff.....Leisure writer

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Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a
way to get answers to questions
you still have after using your
chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest
will be published in the *Eifel
Times* and may be edited or
paraphrased for brevity or clarity.
Submit your Direct Line via:

■ DirectLine@spangdahlem.
af.mil

■ Mailed to 52nd FW/PA,
Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE
09126

■ To PA in building 23.

■ Concerns may also be sent
via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are
accepted. To receive a personal
response you must include your
name and phone number. Call the
Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more
information.



Col. Dave Goldfein

October Sortie Scoreboard

Aircraft	Goal	Flown	Delta
22FS	299	167	+ 4
23FS	330	196	- 1
81FS	293	153	- 4

*Delta is contract vs. sorties flown to date.

Through Oct. 18

Courtesy of the
52nd Operations Support Squadron
Plans and Scheduling Section

Viewpoint

Oct. 21, 2005

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Spiritual growth

Combat TOUCH reaches beyond chapel walls

By Chaplain Dennis Saucier
52nd Fighter Wing Chaplain Services

Combat TOUCH has been designated by the commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe as activities to “infuse enthusiasm for matters of the spirit in our community through active participation in base programs.” It expresses, at base level, the Air Force Chaplain Service theme of “Glorifying God, Honoring Airmen, Serving All.” Combat TOUCH encourages airmen and their families to understand, develop and use the spiritual dimension to better oneself and one’s relationships with others.

A point of clarity should be made here. Combat TOUCH is not just about “going to church.” While worship, rites and liturgies are an important, central focus of the chaplain service, Combat TOUCH concerns itself with activities going “beyond the chapel’s walls.” Neither does Combat TOUCH only focus on one religious system, but it encourages everyone to tap into the wellsprings of the soul, whatever one’s beliefs about God may be. The role of the chaplains in

Combat TOUCH encourages airmen and their families to understand, develop and use the spiritual dimension to better oneself and one’s relationships with others.

Combat TOUCH is to provide opportunities and serve as guides allowing each individual to bring to light the spiritual beliefs and values which serve as the foundation for our decisions, actions and relationships.

There is a vibrant Combat TOUCH program at the 52nd Fighter Wing addressing the spiritual dimension for people of all ages, genders and ranks for both military and civilians. Some of the highlights included the renovations to our Coffee Mill singles recreation center, our “Graced Lightning” flightline visitation vehicle, our monthly single and unaccompanied airmen’s din-

ners, numerous retreats for men, women, and singles; and the Italy Beach Break for middle and high school students each summer. Also in our Combat TOUCH initiatives are the humanitarian efforts of Operation CRAYON donating valuable school supplies to Iraqi children, as well as “Sweats for Soldiers” and “Take a Soldier to the Movies” for our wounded warriors at Landstuhl Army Medical Center. There are also numerous musical performances including the annual base Independence Day concert, the Catholic World Youth Day celebration and the benefit performances in Speicher for the “Children of Chernobyl.”

Other Combat TOUCH efforts are the spiritually focused teen center called “The Studio,” located in Bitburg Annex, building 2001, and our marriage and relationship enrichment workshops.

Thanks to the efforts of numerous, dedicated volunteers Combat TOUCH will continue to improve the quality of life for Team Eifel. To learn how you can be involved, talk with your unit chaplain or call the Base Chapel at 452-6711.

Combat Education

Education center assists potential students combating ‘mammoth-sized’ degree decisions

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

I suppose it makes sense to add the word “combat” on military programs. Life in the military has its own unique challenges, not typically experienced in the civilian world. But what does Combat Education, which has more to do with books than jets, have to offer our military community? Well, quite a bit, I recently found out.

The base education center’s yellow booklet entitled, “Combat Education,” outlines the many personal education programs the center provides. The booklet is available for free at the education center front desk, where loads of other free information is displayed for Team Eifel members to research and develop ideas about their education goals.

I’ve been plugging away at my own goal of earning a university degree for years and from listening to classmates I’ve discovered that education goals vary as much as individual circumstances. Whether a person is single, married, with children or without, retired or even

a high school senior, education center guidance counselors have a variety of programs from which to choose.

Based on experience, I suggest that people who are thinking about taking college classes first visit a guidance counselor and devise an education plan. Following a plan is helpful when working to meet short-, medium- and long-term goals, which could take two or more military tours to complete. As the old joke goes, “What’s the best way to eat an elephant?” “One bite at a time.”

Another big bite to take is figuring out how to make getting a higher education affordable. The counselors can also provide coaching on the variety of tuition assistance programs and scholarships available to military members, retirees, spouses and children.

The next bite is finding the time to take classes. The college and university branches available on-base and online know this is a big challenge and one that typically prevents working adults from pursuing a college degree. Central

Texas College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and the universities of Maryland, Oklahoma and Phoenix offer a variety of lower, mid-level and upper-level classes at all sorts of time of days, some are during the weekday and others take place over a couple of weekends.

For those whose do shift work that varies weekly, online courses may be a good option. Again, education counselors can offer insight as to how these courses work.

The Air Force has taken time into account also. The Combat Education booklet and other pamphlets outline how College Level Examination Program and Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support, commonly called CLEP and DANTES tests, work. These tests score how much knowledge a person already has in college subjects such as English composition, speech, natural and social sciences, mathematics and history.

CLEP and DANTES scoring qualifications for college credits vary from school to school, but

many Airmen earn passing rates for Community College of the Air Force in college mathematics, natural sciences, and information systems and computer applications. Earning a CCAF is one of the stepping stones to earning senior NCO stripes.

The education center is located in the building in front of the Brick House and Cinnabon. For more information, or to schedule a counseling session call the center at 452-6063 or 452-6335.

Another source of personal education information is on the U.S. Air Force Library Education Resource Center at www.peter-sons.com/airforce.

Working long hours, participating in military exercises and “deployability” may add challenges to meeting personal education goals, but reams of printed information and one-on-one counseling makes the Combat Education challenge much more manageable. The only challenge the center can’t help potential students with is motivation – some elephant sandwiches must be noshed alone.

Listen to 105.1 FM for music, info updates and more





Community Mailbox

Submit "Community Mailbox" advertisements 10 days before the desired publication date to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil.



Variety show

Apollo Night at Club Eifel takes place today at 8 p.m. The event benefits King Citadel Military Lodge No. 163. Tickets cost \$10 at the door. Call Staff Sgt. Shawn Huggins at 06561-694957 for details.

Christmas bazaar

A Christmas bazaar takes place at the Bitburg Annex Base Exchange from today to Oct. 30 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Red Ribbon Week

The Red Ribbon Campaign symbolizes intolerance for drug abuse. The campaign's mission is to present a unified and visible commitment toward the creation of a drug-free community. Events include:

- ♦ Middle schoolers hand out Red Ribbon cards Monday from 11:15- 11:45 a.m. to noon and Oct. 25 from 8:15-8:45 a.m. and Oct. 26 from 11:15-11:45 a.m. at the base post offices, exchanges and commissaries to increase community awareness.

- ♦ The Team Eifel community is invited to join a Red Ribbon march Tuesday. The event starts at 1:15 p.m. in front of Spangdahlem Middle School.

FSC limited services

The Spangdahlem AB Family Support Center is open Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from noon to 5 p.m. in building 131, Room 11. The Spangdahlem AB Airmen's Attic is open Monday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon, and Thursday from noon to 4 p.m. in building 408-A in the Military Family Housing area.

The Bitburg Annex FSC is open Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from noon to 4:30 p.m. in building 2001. The Bitburg Annex Airmen's Attic is open from Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Girl Scouts

A meeting about the benefits of volunteering for the Girl Scouts takes place today from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the base youth center gym. Call Kim Shock at 452-9190 or e-mail SpangdahlemGirlScouts@hotmail.com for details.

BHS stage band

Bitburg High School seeks musicians to join its stage band to mentor students in swing and contemporary jazz music styles each Monday from 6:15 to 7:35 p.m. All instruments are welcome. Some instruments are available for loan. Call Anton Andren at 452-9202 or e-mail anton.andren

@eu.dodea.edu for details.

Toastmasters meeting

Toastmasters, a public speaking enhancement club, meets each Tuesday from 6-7 p.m. in Spangdahlem AB Building 139. Call Tech. Sgt. Nicole Gisel at 452-7775 for details.

Massages for disaster relief

A licensed massage therapist is donating her work proceeds now to Nov. 17 to the American Red Cross or Combined Federal Campaign for hurricanes Katrina and Rita relief. Massages are available in the workplace. Call Simone Harcarik at 01604-657368 or 06565-955633 to schedule or for details.

Breast cancer awareness

A depression and breast cancer awareness luncheon takes place Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2001. The family support center seeks breast cancer survivors to be part of a speaker's panel during the luncheon. Call Lynn Luria at 452-9491 for details.

BHS Booster Club

Bitburg High School Booster Club meets Thursday at 6 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The club supports school art, academic and athletic programs.

Disaster services class

The American Red Cross class on disaster services mass care takes place Oct. 27 from 6-9 p.m. The free course is the second part to the introduction to disaster services. The curriculum includes how to deliver quality service in times of disaster, set up shelters, run and maintain mobile feeding centers and bulk distribution. Call 452-9400 for details.

BES volunteers needed

Bitburg Elementary School seeks volunteers to take photographs for its year book, and to run after-school homework and math clubs. For details, visit the Parent and Teacher Association meeting taking place Oct. 28 from 5-8 p.m.

Boy Scout leaders needed

Boy Scout Troop 165 seeks adult leaders to serve as volunteer assistant Scoutmasters, secretaries and events coordinators. Call Tech. Sgt. Jesse Merrill at 452-6270 or Senior Master Sgt. Dan Demers at 452-2059 for details.

Brick House tourneys

Call Kim McElfresh at 452-7381 for details on the following activities.

- ♦ Chess players ages 6 and older meet each first and third Saturday of the month in the Brick House.

- ♦ Billiards players meet each Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Brick House for tournaments taking place Nov. 1-Jan. 24.

CAP volunteers needed

The Spangdahlem Civil Air Patrol seeks a volunteer instructor to teach youth cadets about aerospace education one or two Thursday evenings monthly. E-mail civilair.patrol@spangdahlem.af.mil for details.

BHS tutors needed

Tutors are needed to coach high school students in math, science, English or other language studies one Tuesday or Wednesday each week from 2-3 p.m. at the school. Training is provided. Call 452-9202 or 452-9337, or e-mail fran.laakman@eu.dodea.edu or sharon.krol@eu.dodea.edu for details.

Job fair

A local-agency job fair takes place Oct. 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Club Eifel. Call 452-9491 for details.

Pet spa news

- ♦ The Pet Spa self pet wash has tools, shampoo and drying equipment for pet grooming. Staff members are available to answer questions. Cost is \$5 per pet. Customers are registered to win monthly contests. Prizes include dog sweaters, kenneling discounts, treats and more. Call 452-9362 for information.

- ♦ The Pet Spa has openings available for pet care during Thanksgiving and the winter holidays. Pets who stay three days or longer get free basic grooming. The spa will pick up pets from Spangdahlem AB for \$27 and from Bitburg Annex for \$22. Call 452-9362 for details.

ARC volunteers needed

The American Red Cross seeks a volunteer activities director, youth programs director, and a fundraiser and publicity chairperson. Call the ARC Office at 452-9400.

Bank hours

The Spangdahlem AB Community Bank will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, and the Bitburg Annex Community Bank will be open from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday.

Champagne Sunday Brunch

Come out and enjoy a Relaxing Sunday Brunch at

Club Eifel

Sunday, Oct. 23

1st Seating 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

2nd Seating 1:30 -2:30 p.m.

CALL 452-4639 (Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.)
for reservations

Buffet includes:


Crab legs • peel n' eat shrimp • warm pancakes • buttermilk biscuits • southern grits • savory grilled home fries • sausage • crispy bacon • scrambled eggs • golden honey fried chicken • steamed buttery vegetables • roasted new potatoes • rice pilaf • full salad bar • omelet bar • Belgian waffles with toppings galore • carved honey cured ham • steamship round of beef • assorted breads and cheese • assorted mouth-watering desserts • and champagne!

\$14.95 Members


\$16.95 Nonmembers

Members' Kids \$6 (ages 6-12), FREE (0-5)

Nonmembers' Kids \$7.50



SPANGDAHLEM FOOTBALL FRENZY



3 WINNERS EACH WEEK!

From now until the end of football season, play Spangdahlem Football Frenzy and win great NFL-themed prizes! Pick up an entry form each week at J.R. Rockers, circle your picks and drop it in the entry box. Completed forms are due by the end of the 1st quarter of the first game each week. Winners will be notified each Wednesday morning by email. At the end of the season, the overall winner will get the Ultimate Fan Grand Prize!

1. Drop-off completed entry forms at Club Eifel before end of 1st Quarter of 1st game each week.
2. One entry per Club member

Spangdahlem Football Frenzy Week 6

Circle Your Choices for Each Game

Atlanta at New Orleans	NY Giants at Dallas
Carolina at Detroit	Washington at Kansas City
Cincinnati at Tennessee	New England at Denver
Cleveland at Baltimore	NY Jets at Buffalo
Jacksonville at Pittsburgh	San Diego at Oakland
Miami at Tampa Bay	Houston at Seattle
Minnesota at Chicago	St. Louis at Indianapolis

Week 6 Tiebreaker
Total Number of Passing Yards in All Week 6 Games: _____

Club Member Rank/Name: _____ Unit: _____ Phone: _____
Last 4 of Club Card: _____ Favorite NFL Team: _____

National Disability Employment Awareness Billiards Tournament



Oct. 28 at 4 p.m.

Brick House

Entry fee \$5; prizes awarded

Learn about federal disability employment at this 52nd Fighter Wing Multicultural Awareness Committee sponsored event.



Der Markt

Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The Eifel Times staff reserves the right to edit ads.

Movies

The following movie listings are for today through Oct. 27. Times and movies are subject to change. For current information, call 06565-61-9441 or 452-9441. Movie synopses are available at www.aafes.com/ems/-default.asp.

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

Just Like Heaven (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

A San Francisco man falls in love with a spirit that he discovers is a woman who has been in a coma for months, and, unless he does something, she'll be taken off life support.

Four Brothers (R, 9:30 p.m.)

After their adoptive mother is murdered, the Mercer brothers reunite to avenge her death. As they track down the killer, they realize that their old ways of doing business have new consequences.

Saturday

Just Like Heaven (7 p.m.)

Sunday

Valiant (G, 4 p.m.)

A lowly wood pigeon named Valiant, overcomes his small size to become a hero in Great Britain's Royal Air Force Homing Pigeon Service during World War II.

Just Like Heaven (7 p.m.)

Monday

Valiant (7 p.m.)

Tuesday

Just Like Heaven (7 p.m.)

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Bitburg Castle

Today

The Transporter 2 (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

A retired ex-Special Forces operative defies the FBI to save the son of a wealthy family from kidnappers.

The Great Raid (R, 9:30 p.m.)

The true story of the 6th Ranger Battalion's effort to free 500 American soldiers from a Japanese prisoner of war camp in 1945.

Saturday

The Transporter 2 (7 p.m.)

Dukes of Hazzard (PG-13, 9:30 p.m.)

Bo and Luke Duke, their cousin Daisy and Uncle Jesse try to save the family farm from being destroyed by Hazzard County's corrupt commissioner, Boss Hogg.

Sunday

Dukes of Hazzard (4 p.m.)

Supercross (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

Two brothers overcome emotional and physical obstacles to achieve success in the competitive world of Supercross racing.

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

The Great Raid (7 p.m.)

Thursday

The Transporter 2 (7 p.m.)

Fortified city world site for World War I history

Verdun tourism invites visitors to honor soldiers' freedom fight

Story and photo by Don Weitz
52nd Mission Support Squadron
Education Center

People looking for places to visit during a three-day holiday weekend should consider visiting the French city of Verdun. For military history and non-history buffs alike, the past and the beauty of Verdun make it definitely worthy of a visit.

Just the way other European communities have created tourism markets based on wine, cheese, chocolate and other local commodities, Verdun has created a tourism industry based on a series of devastating battles with Germany during World War I. Everywhere in and around the city are memorials dedicated to those who fought in the war, as well as to the 700,000 who were killed, wounded or who went missing during the battles that raged from February to December 1916.

For the visitor who simply wants an understanding of the role Verdun played during World War I, two days here are sufficient. An absolute must-see in the city is the Musee de la Citadelle Militaire. Visitors to the museum board a laser guided tram that takes them through the tunnels of a 12th-century fortress. The tour is facilitated by an audio-visual presentation to include holograms depicting what life was like 89 years ago when this area was at war.

Before leaving the city to see other war memorials, be sure to see Rodin's Memorial to Verdun. The memorial symbolizes the horror of war as Victory is unable to soar because she is entangled in the corpse of a fallen soldier. While visits to most of the memorials require an entry fee, viewing of Rodin's monument is, so to speak, "on the house."



Ossuaire de Douaumont is where the remains of more than 100,000 unidentifiable French and German soldiers are entombed.

During World War I, the bucolic countryside around Verdun was transformed into a battleground of unimaginable proportions: trenches were dug, barbed wire lay everywhere, the dank air was punctuated by the acrid smell of recently exploded ordnance, and the fighting was frequently so up-close and personal that the weapon of first-choice was often the bayonet. Although the barbed wire is gone, as are the horrible sounds and smells of that war, the trenches remain clearly visible. Also still visible are the craters that were created when 26,000,000 artillery shells slammed into the earth during the 10 month Battle for Verdun.

Other enlightening memorials around the Verdun countryside include the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery and the Ossuaire de Douaumont.

The Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery is approximately 30 miles from Verdun. With 14,246 American service members buried in this perfectly coiffed 130 acre cemetery, more U.S. military personnel lay in rest here than anywhere else in all of Europe. The road from

Verdun to the cemetery is unreliably marked, so be on the keen look out for signs that lead the way.

The Ossuaire de Douaumont shelters the remains of some 130,000 unidentifiable German and French soldiers who perished during the Verdun campaign. The walls inside the massive 137 meter wide stone structure are inscribed with the names of those whose mutilated bodies could not be recognized. In a sense, the Ossuaire de Douaumont is the Tomb of the 130,000 Unknown Soldiers.

Verdun is located in France's Alsace region, and is roughly midway between Spangdahlem and Paris. Making the 125 mile drive each way is easy since the route is uncomplicated and the roads are in good condition, but drivers should bring euro to pay for road tolls. Also, drivers should gas up on base before taking off to Verdun because the ESSO gas coupons aren't useable in France.

Many of Verdun's museums and monuments are open daily. For details, there are Web sites such as JustTourFrance.com, that feature tourist information.

Travel Info Share

The Eifel Times staff extends a special thanks to Don Weitz for his Leisure page contribution and invites other Team Eifel members to share their stories about interesting places to visit in Germany and the surrounding countries. Stories should be 400 words or less and written in third person. Photos must be high resolution. Submit articles to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or call the Eifel Times office at 452-5244 for more information.



Hermann Schloesser

Celebrating friendship

Dawn Goldfein presents Inge Glashauser flowers during the German-American Women's Club 50th anniversary celebration in Bitburg Oct. 13. Ms. Glashauser was one of several long-term members of the club honored at the event, some of whom have played active roles for more than 30 years. The purpose of the club is to cultivate cultural exchanges between German and American women by sponsoring monthly trips, sharing mutual traditions, conducting language classes and offering solidarity during times of disaster, said Bernhard Schaefer, 52nd Fighter Wing Community Relations chief. People interested in joining the club or more information can call Ritta Pasco at 06561-7508.

Out and About

For tickets, call the TV-Ticket-Hotline at 0651-7199-996 or visit the Bitburg TV office, located on Hauptstrasse 39a, unless specified otherwise.

♦ The Spangdahlem Spouses and Enlisted Members Club Rotenberg Christmas Market express travels Dec. 3. E-mail trips@ssemc.org from Oct. 30-Nov. 5 to register.

♦ A concert featuring Sarah Conner takes place Nov. 5 in Trier Arena.

♦ Simply Red performs Nov. 16 at 8 p.m. in Cologne Koeln arena hall.

♦ Elton John performs Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. in Oberhausen Koenig-Pilsener arena hall.

Register for the following trips at the Information, Tickets and Tours Office located in the Spangdahlem AB Community Center. Call 452-6567 to register.

♦ Payless trip to Munich, Nov. 5.

♦ Dinner and wine tasting, Nov. 5.

♦ Bad Muenstereifel sightseeing and Roman crystal shopping, Nov. 5.

Sports Briefs

New Yoga classes

Yoga classes take place each Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB Health and Wellness Center first floor fitness room. The class is for people practicing on the beginner and intermediate levels who seek to improve their flexibility and overall health. Comfortable, close-fitting clothing is recommended and participants are invited to exercise barefoot. Registration isn't required. Call the HAWC at 452-7385 for details.

Basketball officials certification

A basketball official certification clinic takes place today at 5 p.m. in the base fitness center conference room. Call Chief Master Sgt. Steven Gardner at 452-5049.

Sports advisory meeting

The 2006 first quarter Fitness Sports and Advisory Council meets Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the base fitness center.

Sports day volunteers needed

Youth Services seeks volunteers to help with sports day events taking place Oct. 29. Volunteers are needed to set up events, to conduct events and to clean up. Call Airman 1st Class Milien Corinne at 452-6141 to register.

Youth basketball or cheerleading

Registration for youth basketball and cheerleading takes place now through Nov. 4. The season begins Dec. 5 for youth ages 5-15. Coaches are also needed. Cost is \$35 for ages 5-10 and \$40 for ages 11-15. Register at the Bitburg Annex Teen Center in building 58.

Volleyball tourney

Deadline to register for the Turkey Classic Men's Volleyball Invitational is today. The tournament takes place Nov. 4-6 and is played in round robin format. Call Lisa Tolarchyk at 480-7623 or 06371-477623.

Choose the right shoes

The 52nd Medical Group physical therapy unit offers shoe and running clinics in the health and wellness center, building 130. Clinics feature one-on-one foot analysis and tips on how to purchase shoes based on foot types. Instructors also review running-based injuries and how to prevent them. One-hour classes take place Thursday at 3 p.m. Registration is encouraged by calling 452-4295. Class participants should bring their workout sneakers.

Racquetball tourney

The Halloween Racquetball Invitational takes place Oct. 29-30 at 9 a.m. in the Ramstein AB northside fitness center. Call Lisa Tolarchyk at 480-7623 or 06371-477623 for more information.

Fitness center improvements

The Spangdahlem AB fitness center is undergoing renovations now through November. The gym floor is closed for resurfacing now through Oct. 30. All classes usually held in the gym take place in the aerobics room until the project is completed. The aerobics room is closed for renovations Oct. 31-Nov. 18. All classes will then take place in the gym until the project is completed. The base fitness center is open Monday-Friday from 4:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., and Saturday, Sunday and holidays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Bitburg Annex center is open to annex residents by using a facility key, which is issued at the Spangdahlem AB fitness center Call 452-6634 for details.

Sport shooting info

Team Eifel members who have weapons stored in the armory and are interested in acquiring a Weapons Possession Card (WBK) can call 52nd Services Squadron Outdoor Recreation at 452-7170 for information.

Tai Chi Quan: Tone muscles with meditation in movement

Story and photo by Staff Sgt.
Jennifer Lindsey
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

With students dressed in loose-fitting stretch pants and bare feet, the first impression Klaus van den Boom's Tai Chi Quan class has on visitors is that of mellowness. Upon the instructor's softly spoken command, the students "wake the chi" and in unison, begin to perform a series of smoothly choreographed sets that leave spectators feeling relaxed from just watching.

Tai Chi incorporates deep, gentle stretches with graceful transitions from one set of movements to another which, when performed correctly, strengthen muscles through the practice of physical balance, alignment and control. Although the exercise can be practiced as a form of self-defense, Mr. Van den Boom, a 52nd Fighter Wing Safety Office safety manager, teaches a class that focuses on the healthful aspects of meditation. The strength gained by practicing the martial art counters and compliments the feeling of tranquility the exercise inspires, which establishes balance within the body and mind, said Mr. Van den Boom.

"It's very meditative, concentrating on movements. After class, I feel better throughout the rest of the day because I've stretched everything," said the class' newest student Valerie Smith, a Saber spouse who was also attracted to the exercise's ability to improve balance and flexibility.



From left to right, Valarie Smith, Diana Ruth and Sarah Kuyper transition to the movement "dividing the main of the wild horses" as they follow Tai Chi Quan instructor Klaus van den Boom, during a lunch hour class Oct. 5 on Spangdahlem Air Base. Tai Chi tones the muscles as participants change from soft, relaxed muscle movements to movements involving tension by moving back and forward, turning, pushing and pulling.

Similar to other exercises, Mr. Van den Boom's Tai Chi class takes some time to master. Even movement names, which are derived from Chinese martial arts, differ from the average fitness class. Learning how to gracefully transition from the "brush knee" movement to "guitar," "repulse the monkey" and then "grasp the bird's tail" requires dedication and concentration, but is well worth the effort, the instructor said. The results for students such as Sarah Kuyer, who has practiced Tai Chi for three months, include

improved balance and posture.

"I meditate daily, so this is meditative movement. The class offers me a moment in the day when all I'm focusing on are my movements, which feels absolutely wonderful," said Mrs. Kuyer.

People interested in Tai Chi can attend classes each Monday and Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m. in the Health and Wellness Center, and each Tuesday and Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex gymnasium. Call Mr. Van den Boom at 452-7233 for details.

Barons tennis ladies net three victories at Patch

Pendergrass, Kruse and Dermody win singles, but Ramstein still outmatch BHS men 5-4

By Pete Vadney
Bitburg High School tennis coach

It was an ambitious three match schedule last week for the tennis teams as they played Ramstein High School Monday, Brussels American High Wednesday and Patch High School from Stuttgart Saturday.

Bitburg High School Lady Netters once again led the way sweeping all three teams, which will set up an undefeated season with a victory next week at Hanau High. The Barons women won a close 5-4 match at Division 1 Ramstein as No. 5 Caitlin Schwartz and No. 6 Audrey Neubauer won crucial matches in singles, then teamed together in the No. 3 doubles to finally set Ramstein down on the day by winning 8-6. No. 1 Jennica Botonis won against a stubborn Royal's lady 6-3, 2-6, and 6-4; then teamed up with Sidnei Banks to win the No. 2 doubles match 8-4 to keep the Barons on winning ways.

Against smaller Division 4 Brussels American High, the ladies team romped, winning 9-0. Senior Ashley Fary revenged her off-day loss at Ramstein winning 8-0 in singles, then combined with Banks to pound a hapless No. 1 Brussel's doubles team 8-2. Maddison Mckenna won playing in the No. 6 slot, then teamed with Nicole Specht to win the No. 3 doubles match 8-3.

The week finished off with a slaughter of league foe Divison 2 Patch High 9-0. Fary closed out her Bitburg High home career destroying a Patch Panther No. 3 opponent 8-1, then teamed with Jackie Ventrice to wreak revenge on the Patch doubles team of Tamara Opplinger and Michelle Whitbeck. These players knocked Fary out of the European Doubles Championships last season. Schwartz remained undefeated in singles competition

winning 8-4 in the No. 5 slot, while Dani Goldfein returned from "sick leave" to win the No. 6 match 8-0.

The ladies team bid farewell to senior Banks who only played this year for the Barons, but racked up a record of 5-1 in single's play. Banks then played through the season 7-0 in doubles play.

Barons men

The men's team had a great week also, but found Ramstein a bit too much to handle losing 5-4 in another close match. John Pendergrass started the team out winning with a 6-2, 6-1 victory in No. 1 singles, but only No. 4 Kolby Kruse and No. 5 Colin Dermody were able to swing additional wins in singles play.

Freshman Brandon Peine made his varsity debut in the No. 6 slot and played valiantly, but lost 8-6 to a senior Ramstein player. In doubles play he combined with Pendergrass and the two won the No. 2 doubles 8-4. Like the ladies, the men found Brussels much more playable as they also won 8-1. Zack Heath and Marc Ramos returned to winning ways as they won the No. 2 and No. 3 matches. The Baron men matched the ladies success against Patch also sending the Panther male's home winless 9-0.

Seniors closing out their Bitburg High court careers included captains Pendergrass winning the No. 1 match 6-1, 6-1 and Dermody winning the No. 5 match 8-4. Seniors No. 3 Kruse and No. 4 Ramos won winning 8-1 and 9-7 respectively. Mickey Cavaliero closed out the day winning the No. 6 match 8-0, remaining undefeated for the season.

The tennis Barons close out the season next week against Hanau High. The following week, the Barons compete in the Department of Defense Dependent Schools European Tennis Championships where the top singles player's, Pendergrass and Botonis, will compete for honors. The Barons will also send their top doubles team to compete. Players for those slots have yet to be determined.

*Halloween
race*

Costume-clad runners are encouraged to join the 52nd Fighter Wing Halloween Fun Run taking place Oct. 28 at noon from the base fitness center. For safety's sake, runners should not wear masks or costumes that cover the face and could impede sight. Call 452-6634 for more information.

